

Application No. 10/707,999
Docket No. A4-1719
Amendment dated June 9, 2005
Reply to Office Action of March 9, 2005

REMARKS

At the request of Examiner Mai, claims 1-3, 7, 8, 10-13, and 17 have been amended to cancel the phrase "at least one material," as such a term does not find express support in the specification. In doing so, Applicants are not narrowing the scope of their claims to exclude the possibility of the claimed product containing chips or a matrix formed of multiple different materials.

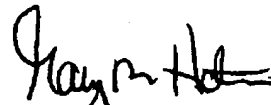
Furthermore, the amendments do not affect Applicants' basis in their previous Amendment filed April 11, 2005, for requesting reconsideration of the election of species requirement in the Office Action. More particularly, while Applicants elected claims 1 and 13-16 for prosecution on the merits, Applicants respectfully believe that, for the reasons stated in their previous response, unity of invention exists under MPEP §803.02 for chips formed of any of the materials recited in independent claims 1, 13, and 17, and unity of invention exists under MPEP §803.02 for matrices formed of any of the materials recited in independent claims 1 and 17.

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Should the Examiner have any questions with respect to any matter
now of record, Applicants' representative may be reached at (219) 462-4999.

Respectfully submitted,

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June 9, 2005
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